injuries to the passengers in the event of any mishap and also to remove sharp edges etc. which might injure passengers in normal use.

(b) In order to attract maximum number of ideas, each Railway and Production Unit was asked to modify one coach, making it as injury free and crashworthy as possible and a competition was held in Delhi. Eleven such coaches were received and all of them had incorporated several innovative ideas.

(c) The suggestions made by various workshops and production units are now under close scrutiny. Features which are found appropriate for adoption on a global basis, will be advised to the Zonal Railways and the Production Units for incorporation during POH/new manufacture. These improvements will be progressively implemented starting from the current year.

Palace on Wheels on Nagpur-Jabalpur stretch

4042. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that South Eastern Railway proposes to introduce a luxurious train on the pattern of Palace on Wheels to traverse the Nagpur-Jabalpur stretch taking the travellers through Chhindwara, Seonic, Nainpur and Manda overseeing the sylvan beauty of Satpura range; and

(b) if so, when the proposed train is likely to be introduced alongwith its likely fare and the broad features for the benefit of tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) There is a proposal to run a tourist train between Nagpur and Chhindwara/Jabalpur. The details are not yet finalized.

Contract between IRCON and Government of Malaysia

4043. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IRCON has entered into a contract with the Government of Malaysia for a project worth Rs. 5000 crores for doubling the track and electrification of a stretch in Malaysia;

(b) if so, the details of the project, the time within which it has to be completed the length of the track to be doubled and the length of the track to be electrified;

(c) whether there is enforcement clause in the contract; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) IRCON International Ltd. (IRCON) has not entered into any contract to lay double railway line in Malaysia. However, a Letter of intent has been issued to IRCON for the works of double tracking of Railway line between Ipoh Padang Besar. Formal agreement incorporating various provisions of the contract has not yet been signed.

(b) Completion period is likely to be 5 years. Total route length for the work is 340 km. Electrification is not in the scope of work of IRCON.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Trains during summer vacations

†4044. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the number of trains or to run more trains in the country during the summer vacations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what other special arrangements for trains is being made for the convenience of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) It is proposed to run about 3240 Summer Special Trains during Summer 2002. The All India Summer Specials Time Table indicating the details of the trains has been published and released in February 2002.

(c) In addition to the special trains, the existing trains are also being augmented where operationally feasible to cater to the extra rush during summer vacations.

More facilities in trains

†4045. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.